

Historical research has documented transfer of land for this property back to 1692 when John Watmore sold 200 acres to William Dare for 7000 lbs. of tobacco. A validation of this transaction was passed in 1761 (MB 301) Wadmore's Neck, as it was referred to presently consists of late 18th or early 19th Century structures, however, the two story hall/parlor log house seems to have been built off an earlier foundation. The present log house probably dates from the period when either James Hart willed the property to his daughter Jannett or when Alexander Wilson bought the property in 1800. (JS 3/303).

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CE-795

File #581

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Walnut Lane Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Walnut Lane Farm Left off Turkey Point Road

CITY, TOWN

North East

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
☐ ACCESSIBLE  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

H.A. Dieffenbach

Telephone #: 301-287-8896

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Walnut Lane Farm Left off of Turkey Point Road - South of Hart's Church

CITY, TOWN

North East

☒ VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

21901

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 263  
 Folio #: 229

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated on a small knoll overlooking the Elk River, Walnut Lane Farm is located down a farm lane east of Turkey Point Road and south of Hart's Church. The house faces east with the main gable running north/south.

The earliest section of the present house is a two story three bay by one room hall/parlor weatherboard log structure with a two story single bay frame extension on the north gable end that connects an early 19th Century 1½ story 2 bay by 1 room frame kitchen addition. The entire structure rests on a fieldstone foundation with basement under the kitchen wing. The cellar foundation, however, does not conform to the present superstructure and ~~therefore~~ evidence points to an earlier building which has been replaced by the present kitchen wing. This end of the house has received fire damage which may have been the reason for the new kitchen wing and frame extension of the main block. The entire house is covered with a medium sloped seamed tin roof. The roof of the kitchen wing extends beyond the main block wall surface and is connected with a pent eave that stretches across the east facade of the main block. The west side is covered by a single story shed roof porch.

The main elevation (east) presently consists of four bays on each floor; the southern three being the log portion of the house. A centrally located door is flanked by two 6/6 sash windows with two panel shutters. The northern bay is filled by a small four pane window. The pent eave, a later addition separates the two floors. Four 6/6 sash light the second floor and a boxed cornice stretches above.

The 1½ frame kitchen is set back from the main block but a wide eave extends out to connect its roof with the pent eave. A single 6/6 sash gabled dormer lights the second floor. The first floor is pierced by a single door and adjacent 6/6 sash. The kitchen wing covers a majority of the north end of the main block. The north end of the kitchen wing has an interior end brick chimney. A single 6/6 sash window lights both the first and second floor. The west roof slope of the kitchen is extended by a continuous shed which serves as enclosed storage space for the kitchen. A single 6/6 sash gabled dormer lights the second floor. The first floor is lighted by an off center six pane window and basement access is found below.

The west facade of the main block has an identical fenestration <sup>as</sup> on the east side. An interior single flue brick stack does rise on the north end but <sup>not</sup> against the north wall. This is due to the earlier gable end wall having been covered over by the later frame extension. The original gable end is exposed in the attic. The siding does differ ~~on the side~~ below the porch. It is a flush 5½" ~~board~~ weatherboard instead of the lapped siding.

The south gable end is primarily plain. A portion of the siding has been removed which exposed the logs. A fire escape from the second floor has been added and two four pane attic windows flank the larger common bond brick chimney. A plain bargeboard covers the end rafter.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PAGE TWO  
WALNUT LANE FARM

The interior is notable for its late 18th or early 19th Century woodwork. A Federal mantel is attached to the south parlor chimney breast. Fluted pilasters with molded capitals support a decorated frieze with fluted central tablet and end blocks. The shelf is molded and broken out which coincides with the frieze blocks. A winder stair rises in the adjacent southwest corner and has a related cupboard below. The doors have raised panels. The window surrounds have a wider fluting. The hall was undoubtedly damaged by fire in the mid to late 19th Century due to the replacement doors and woodwork that date from the period. The second floor is divided into three bedrooms with a hall running along the west wall. The original stair remains in the southeast corner. The bedroom partitions appeared to be of mid 19th Century date. The attic reveals a common rafter roof with studdable ends.

The kitchen wing ~~also~~ has a winder stair in the northeast corner which is enclosed with a beaded board door. A narrow beaded strip wainscoting covers the wall below the windows.

Outbuildings that remain include a pyramidal roof <sup>stuccoed</sup> stone meathouse with peak ventilator. The roof is covered with standing seam tin and decorated with a exposed rafter end eave. An ice house is also located on the property and is of similar above ground description. The ruins of the braced timber frame bank barn stand west of the house.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 ?	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Historical research has documented transfer of land for this property back to 1692 when John Watmore sold 200 acres to William Dare for 7000 lbs. of tobacco. A validation of this transaction was passed in 1761 (MB 301) Wadmore's Neck, as it was referred to presently consists of late 18th or early 19th Century structures, however, the two story hall/parlor log house seems to have been built of a earlier foundation. The present log house probably dates from the period when either James Hart willed the property to his daughter Jannett or when Alexander Wilson bought the property in 1800. (JS 3/303).

Architecturally, log houses of this date with its surviving details in uncommon in Cecil County. The Federal period mantel and associated woodwork is particularly fine for the period.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Paul B. Touart County Historian

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

DATE

4-26-78

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-7568

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## WALNUT LANE FARM

CE-795

Estate of Harry A Dieffenbach & Isabel P, wife  
Box 495 R.D. #2

Imps 155.824 a  
SS George St.  
Turkey Pt. S. of N.E.

map 46 Grid 8 parcel 26

Asses. \$21,585.

Elk Neck Rd. to left before Park.

Transferred to Margaret D. Lipsey, Harry A. Dieffenbach, jr. and  
Lincoln P. Dieffenbach 6/19/1979

Long narrow lot. No waterfront.

Daniel Bathon to right WAS 371/329

465.94 a p.27

Oblate Sisters of St. Francis to left

WAS 110/67

p.158

10.30 a

WAS 90/92

28.08 a

7/20/1979

WALNUT LANE FARM

CE-795

WAS 263/229  
12/ /1970  
Deed

St. Mark's A.U.M.P. church of Elk Neck, grantor  
Harry A. Dieffenbach & Isabel P., grantee

Right, title and interest in and to lands to the  
north west of Md. 272 as described in RRC 31/473  
Also the right to use the spring on parcel 2.

RRC 31/473  
6/16/1948  
Deed  
199 3/4 a

Lewis W. Strahley, Jr. & Genevieve G., grantors  
Harry A. Dieffenbach & Isabel P. grantees

Except Colored Church lot  $\frac{1}{2}$  a (DS4/271 7/25/1970)  
adjacent School House lot  $\frac{1}{2}$  a

SRA 24/395  
6/11/1935  
Deed 224 a

Clarence R. Siegel & Harriet B., Phila., grantors  
Lewis W. Strahley, jr., Phila., grantee

"Composed of a tract of land, sometimes known as  
'Wadmores or Wadenors Neck' and formerly called  
'Home or Mansion Farm', originally allotted by  
decree in partition of a certain William Wilson,  
with  $23\frac{1}{2}$  acres added thereto".

SRA 12/391  
1/2/1931  
Deed  
224 a

Samuel Shoemaker & Sarah Mae, grantors  
Clarence R. Siegal, grantee

HWL 1/513  
9/20/1920  
Deed  
224 a

Charles W. Mills & Elizabeth E., Phila., grantors  
Samuel Shoemaker, grantee

Including mortgage \$7500 to First National Bank  
of North East. With water and riparian rights.

WGP 1/364  
12/16/1918  
Deed  
224 a

Eleanor Taylor Chandler, Phila., grantor  
Charles W. Mills, Phila., grantee

2 parcels: 1) Stackhouse Farm 200 a  
also known as 'Home property' or  
'Wadmore's Neck'.

Bounded by "Hart's Haven", "Timber Neck"  
and Elk River.

2)  $23\frac{1}{2}$  a



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CK 4/343 Wm. J. Arrants and Ida, wife, grantors  
 1/12/1911 Eleanor Taylor Chandler, grantee  
 Deed  
 \$3400 plus assumption of mortgage to Ellen J. Broughton  
 223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a for \$3000 2/21/1899 JGW 5/331  
 assigned to Wm. H. Mackall 1/18/1902  
 " " Mary C.M. Evans 5/18/1907

plus mortgage to Philip B. Housekeeper  
 for \$800 12/1/1909 CK 1/50  
 assigned to Jessie S. Butler 6/18/1910  
 \$600 unpaid.

JGW 4/149 John S. Wirt, grantor  
 2/14/1899 Wm. J. Arrants, grantee  
 Deed  
 223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a Wirt executor of Wm. Freeman

JTG 5/212 Wm. S. Evans & John S. Wirt, grantors  
 1/11/1894 Peter H. Cleaver, grantee  
 Deed  
 \$5000 Evans & Wirt executors of Wm. R. Freeman, dec'd  
 223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a Cleaver, executor of Wm. Freeman

JAD 21/249 Wm. S. Evans & John S. Wirt, grantors  
 1/11/1890 Peter H. Cleaver, grantee  
 Mortgage  
 \$8500  
 223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a

JAD 21/250 Peter H. Cleaver & Mary B. grantors  
 1/11/1890 Wm. S. Evans & John S. Wirt, grantees  
 Deed  
 223 $\frac{1}{2}$  a Deed of trust to Evans and Wirt to sell Stackhouse  
 property which Cleaver bought at public sale in  
 behalf of mortgagors Freeman and Evans. Not sold  
 by Cleaver at that time because of depression in  
 real estate.

JAD 21/250  
 1/14/1888 John S. Wirt & Wm. S. Evans, grantors  
 Deed Peter H. Cleaver

223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a Stackhouse property  
 Only mentioned here and not recorded separately.

JAD 12/577 William K. Stackhouse and Susan E., grantors  
 1/20/1887 Wm. S. Evans and John S. Wirt, grantees  
 Deed

223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a Deed of trust empowering them to sell (as above)

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JAD 1/456 James Roney and Lucy, grantors  
12/22/1880 Susan E. Stackhouse, grantee  
Mortgage  
223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a  
\$2250

JAD 2/252 Wm. T. Warburton, assignee, grantor  
4/24/1878 James Roney, grantee  
Mortgage  
\$6000 Warburton assignee for Joseph Pennell  
223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a

AWM 9/105 James Roney, grantor  
4/23/1878 Joseph Pennell  
Mortgage  
\$6000 Assigned to Harold Haines  
223 $\frac{1}{4}$  2 Assumed by Susan Stackhouse

AWM 7/529 Wm. T. Warburton, jr., grantor  
4/24/1878 James Roney, grantee  
Deed  
\$7500 Warburton empowered to sell.  
223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a

AWM 3/291 Joseph Pennell, grantor  
9/13/1875 William K and Susan E. Stackhouse, grantees  
Mortgage  
\$6000  
223 $\frac{1}{4}$  a

CE-795

DS4/271  
7/25/1870  
Deed  
1/2 a

Wm. K. Stackhouse & Susan E, grantors  
Trustees of African Union First Colored Methodist  
Protestant St. Mark's Church of Elk Neck

HRT 2/488  
12/26/1867  
mortgage  
200 a

Reuben Haines, grantor  
Wm. K. Stackhouse, grantee

Farm in Elk Neck of Alexander Wilson "Home property"  
whereof Wm. H. Wilson died siezed, also called  
"Wadmore's Neck"

HWL 3/149  
12/26/1867  
mortgage  
\$2500

Same property conveyed to Susan E. Stackhouse, wife  
of Wm. K. Stackhouse by John A. I. Creswell, trustee  
for Defendants Edwin Wilmer & Hannah E., Mary Megredy  
vs. Mary Ann Christy, complainant

HRT 3/145  
12/26/1867  
Deed

John A. I. Creswell, trustee, grantor  
Susan E. Stackhouse, grantee

HHM 2/204  
10/22/1853  
Deed  
\$600

Alexander Evans, trustee, for Wm. H. Wilson, coroner  
Alexander Wilson

Sold to him (son of Wm. H.) 11/29/1848, now paid

JS 38/320  
10/8/1836  
Deed  
200a

Commissioners, grantors  
William H. Wilson, grantee

Commissioners to divide property of Alexander W.  
Wilson, father of Wm. H.. Surveyed by Henry  
Hollingsworth 1831. Unable to divide

Plot 1)	200 a	@ \$8 an acre	\$1006
Plot 2)	236 a	@ \$4.50	\$6.2

William H. Wilson took Plat 1 4/10/1832

Walnut Lane Farm

CE-795

JS 38/320  
(cont'd)

Alexander Wilson left a widow, Mary, now living,  
who married John Foard

His heirs were: George, New Castle Co.  
William H., Cecil.  
John, Phila.  
Julian m. George Moore  
Alexander  
Margery m. James Rutter  
Mary

George Wilson gave his rights to the widow, Mary  
JS 24/151 9/14/1826 to Wadmore's Neck.  
The other heirs were minor.

JS 3/303  
9/23/1800  
Deed  
\$1300

Lambert Foard & Ann Hamm, grantors  
Alexander Wilson, grantee

James Hart, grandfather of Ann Hamm Foard, willed  
10/18/1773 his plantation called Wadmore's Neck  
where he lived, to his daughter Jannett, but if she  
died to his daughter Ann Hart.

Ann married Noble Hamm and had one child, Ann Hamm.

Ann Hamm m. Lambert Foard

MB/ 301  
1/29/1761,  
Deed  
283 L

Sabina Rigbie, widow, and Benjamin Rumsey, attorney,  
practitioner at law, grantors  
James Hart, Kent Co., farmer, grantee

5/21/1730 law passed to make valid a deed from  
John Watmore to William Dare, Father for 200 a  
at 7000 lb. tobacco. Sold 1692.

William Dare, Father, willed the estate, "Dwelling  
plantation called Wadmore's Neck, to his son William  
Dare, Jr. 11/25/1721.

Benjamin Pearce, only surviving executor for William  
Dare, Son, sold to William Rumsey.

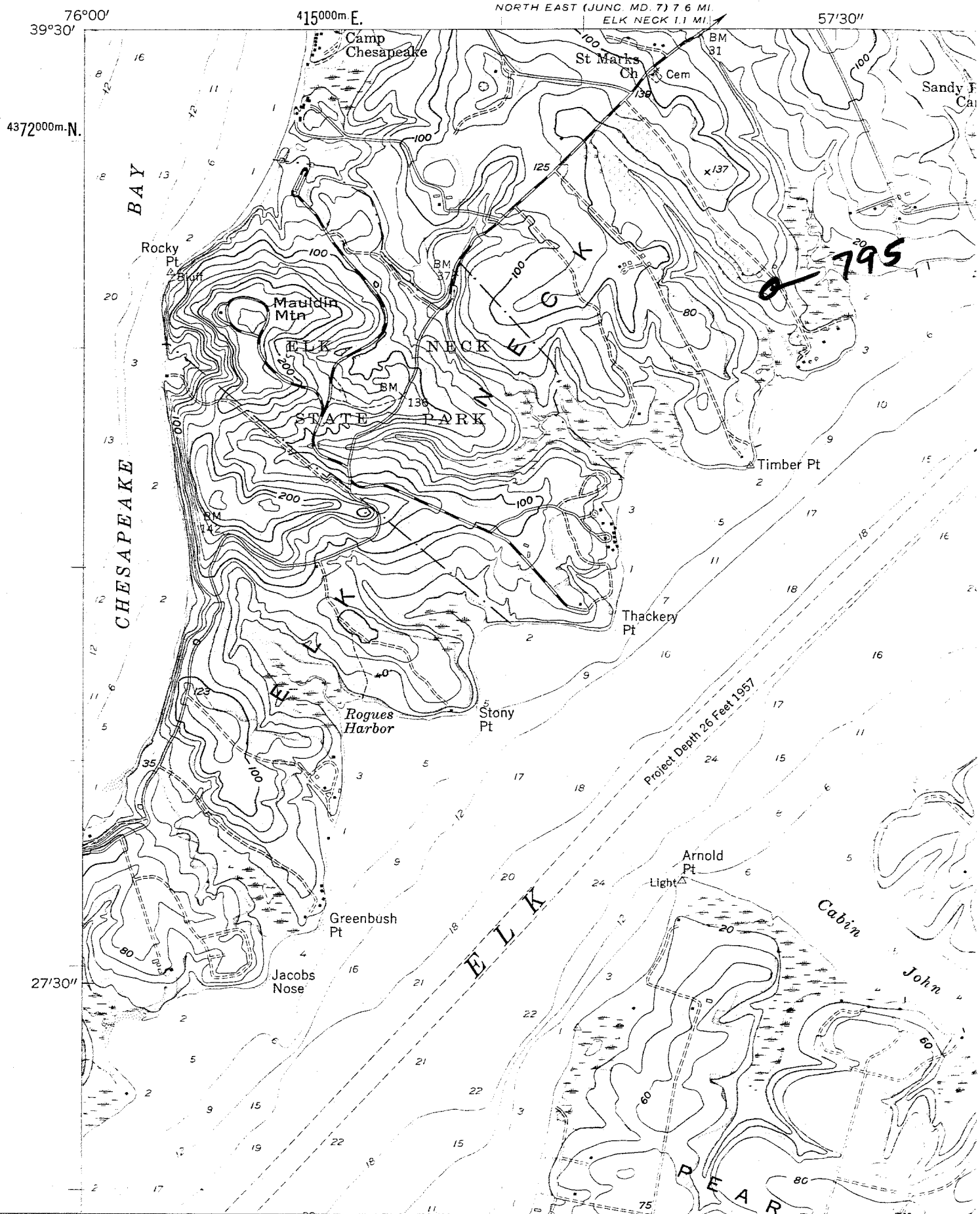
William Rumsey willed the tract to his son, Benjamin  
Rumsey 1/12/1741.

(HAVRE DE GRACE)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ORVILLE  
QUAD.

CE-795





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WALNUT LANE FARM

EASTERN ELEVATION

ELK NECK, MD.

5/78 713T

NEG. / MD. HIST. TRUST





WALNUT LANE FARM  
WESTERN ELEVATION  
ELK NECK, MD.

5/78 PBT

NEG. / MD. HIST. TRUST

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WALNUT LANE FARM

EASTERN ELEVATION

ELK NECK, MD.

5/78 PST

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WALNUT LANE FARM

SOUTH OF HART'S CHURCH

ELK NECK, MO.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION of Meathouse

5/28 PST

NEG. / MO. HIST. TRUST



WALNUT LANE FARM

CE-795

SOUTH OF HART'S CHURCH

ELK NECK, MD.

EASTERN ELEV. of braced timber-frame bank  
barn ruin

5/78 PBT

MD HIST. TRUST / MD.